

Vol 6 No 15

University announces senior appointments



Professor Doug McEachern. Photo: ETU Photography, Waite Campus.

The University of Adelaide's Professor of Politics and Convener of the Academic Board, Professor Doug McEachern has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane, also announced this month that leading international

September target for EB

The senior management of the University of Adelaide and unions are in intense negotiations with a view to finalising the Enterprise Bargain by early September.

At the time of publication, negotiations were underway to bring the bargaining process to a close.

However, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Doug McEachern, said last week that the University had decided to proceed with the promotions round, regardless of further progress on the Enterprise Bargain. He said he hoped that the bargain would be concluded in early September, but the promotions round was too important to delay.

Professor McEachern, who is leading the University's negotiating team, has held meetings with general staff at the North Terrace, Waite and Roseworthy campuses in recent weeks. The major staff union—the NTEU—also held a meet-ing of members at North Terrace campus.

economist and University of NSW Professor of Economics Ross Milbourne had been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

Professor O'Kane said the appointments would broaden and strengthen the University's senior management.

"Professor McEachern is a distinguished academic, particularly wellknown for his work on the politics of mining and the environment and, in recent years, the new South Africa," Professor O'Kane said.

"He has a keen understanding of the challenges facing Australian academics, as well as the capacity to forge healthy relationships with business, government and other sectors both in Australia and overseas."

In the newly-created position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor McEachern will be the clear second-incharge to the Vice-Chancellor with particular responsibility for learning and teaching and industrial relations.

Professor McEachern has resigned as Convener of the Academic Board. The process of selecting a new Convener is underway.

Professor O'Kane said that Professor Milbourne was an outstanding international economist.

"He is regarded as a superb academic administrator and leader and he will inject new impetus to the University of Adelaide's outstanding research effort. He has a deep knowledge of research across Australia."

 \mathbf{As} Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Milbourne will play a key role in ensuring the University's national and international profile as a leading research institution will be maintained and enhanced.

Professor McEachern, 49, was appointed Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor and elected Convener of the Academic Board this year.

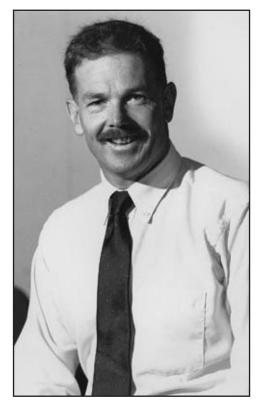
He has a BA (Hons) First Class and an MA from the University of Adelaide, and a PhD from the University of Leeds. He was appointed Professor of Politics in 1993 and, in 1996, he was Head of the Department of Politics.

He has authored three books, including Business Mates: The Power and Politics of the Hawke Era, and holds a Large Grant from the Australian Research Council to study environmental policy-making and conflict in the forest industry.

Professor Milbourne, 47, holds a Bachelor and Masters in Commerce from the University of New South Wales and a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley.

He was appointed Professor of Economics in 1989 and has been Head of the School of Economics at the University of New South Wales from 1990-94 and in 1997.

He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and is Chair of the Research Grants Committee of the Australian Research Council.



Professor Ross Milbourne. Photo courtesy of University of New South Wales.

As an economist, Professor Milbourne has made seminal contributions to the understanding of important problems in macroeconomics, particularly the demand for money.

Professor Milbourne is expected to take up the position later in the year.

-David Washington

Council go-ahead to fees pilot program

A small number of full-fee places will be offered in a range of high-demand professional courses at the University of Adelaide next year, the University's Council decided this month.

At its meeting at the Roseworthy campus on 8 August, Council voted 8-5 in favour of going ahead with a 1998 pilot program of undergraduate fees.

Council's decision was informed by a paper from the working party established in June to examine a pilot program of fees. In July, Academic Board voted in favour of a small-scale pilot program of fees for next year.

[Limited places will be offered to overseas qualified dentists in the fourth year of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery. The Commonwealth has recently withdrawn its support for these places.]

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Doug McEachern said the entry requirements for full-fee places reflected the University's traditional and ongoing commitment to academic excellence.

He stressed that the full-fee places are additional to the University's normal offering of HECS places.

"They do not replace HECS places,

The working party—which has academic and student representation-will monitor and evaluate the pilot program, including its effect on the University's equity profile.

A draft code of practice on entry and academic standards was presented to Council along with the paper from the working party. The code will be developed further as the basis for a code of practice applicable to the University's relationship with all it students.

The draft code is based on codes of practice and guidelines published by the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee in relation to students general-

Once the unions and the university come to an agreement, the bargain must gain the demonstrable approval of the majority of staff. The mechanism for approval could include an open ballot held during staff meetings or a secret ballot of all staff. After being approved by staff, and Council, the agreement would be taken to the Industrial Relations Commission for ratification.

The places will be offered in the 1998 intake into Bachelor degrees of Architecture, Commerce, Computer Science, Agricultural Science (Oenology), Design Studies, Engineering, Finance, Health Science and Law.

They will be available to students who are only slightly below the cutoff for HECS places for the course, and the University's current minimum entry score for all students (342/500) will remain in force. There will be limited scope for transfer to HECS places in later years of the course. Access to such places will be decided on merit.

and HECS places will be offered in the usual way," he said.

"The full-fee option is something new-it represents an additional opportunity for some students who strongly wish to enter a particular course but have missed the cut-off by only a few points. We expect interest in these places from school leavers and from mature-age students."

Fees will be generally comparable with the fees charged for international students.

The University will be seeking business support for scholarships for some of the new places.

ly, fee-paying postgraduate students and international students. It discusses general principles, as well as principles for the provision of information to students, selection of students, academic progress, equity and access, fee payment, and transfer of fee-paying students to HECS-liable places.

Full details of entry requirements for next year's pilot program will be available soon. In the meantime, students or parents with inquiries about full-fee places should contact the Student Information Office (1800 061 459) to arrange to receive detailed information when it is available.

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ILLUMINATION



Definitely didn't see a dolphin

It was with a mixture of anticipation and trepidation that I set out for Port Stephens last weekend for a meeting of the Go8 Vice-Chancellors and Senior Managers. As Convener of the Group I had organised a long agenda of items, the successful resolution of which would involve high levels of cooperation. I wasn't sure this would be achieved and feared that the weekend could be something of an anti-climax.

However, a colleague had told me about a program on television featuring the place we were going to at Port Stephens. It showed a beautiful location with dolphins frolicking close to the water's edge and I had visions that with all the time freed if the meeting broke up early, I could enjoy this magnificent scene and in particular the dolphins with their wonderful mixture of playfulness and intelligence.

In fact things turned out very differently. Discussion on all items was detailed and extremely useful and most importantly there was an explicit recognition that it is in the interests of the Go8 universities to collaborate very fully in an open way, for the greater benefit of Australia and the institutions making up the Group. Intense competition was seen as needlessly diverting resources that may be put to more profitable ends.

It was also agreed that the Go8 alliance is only one of several in which our universities will engage. Most universities, including Adelaide, have a set of strong international links. Many, like us, have links within their State, all of which are valuable and produce benefits which we want to continue.

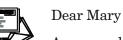
Some of the activities of the weekend are now public knowledge following media interest in our press release announcing that the universities are united in trying to counter the effects of comments from Pauline Hanson.

Part of dealing with this negative publicity will involve setting up a network of Asian offices representing the Go8. These will complement existing collaborative ventures in the region.

The Eight also made detailed arrangements for extensive benchmarking; common marketing on many fronts was planned; research infrastructure questions, particularly in the area of high-performance computing and communications was discussed; and future activities were proposed.

Adelaide lagging behind on professorial loadings and offering **Academic Promotions**

Open Letter to Vice-Chancellor



As you know, the University of Adelaide is out of step with the other seven members of the Group of 8 Universities with respect to our policy on promotions beyond Level C. All of these universities have an annual round of promotions to both Level D and Level E (as do the other two universities in South Australia). By contrast, the current situation at the University of Adelaide is that there are quotas on promotion to Level D (12 every 2 years) and no promotion path to Level E.

At a recent address, our newly appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Ross Milbourne argued that if Adelaide is to become a "worldclass university" (whatever that means) by 2022, it must recruit and retain top-class academic staff and postdoctoral research fellows, even if this means paying

professorial positions to high flying senior lecturers from elsewhere. Professor Milbourne is apparently unaware that because of our inflexible promotions policy, the University of Adelaide has been subjected to exactly this kind of poaching for years.

In the last decade at least a dozen high flying senior lecturers have left the University of Adelaide for chairs elsewhere shortly after being rejected for promotion to Level D.

Denying people a deserved promotion has a damaging effect both on them and on the University. Either they leave, creating a brain/talent drain, or they stay, feeling cheated, angry and demoralised. In either case, the University loses.

Last year Oxford University (which most people would agree is "world-class") promoted 162 of its dons to professorial status for precisely this reason. Closer to home, Flinders University last month promoted 22 readers/associate professors to professorial status.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Three recent surveys have revealed very low levels of morale among academic staff at this University.

No doubt there are several reasons for this, but the promotions policy is certainly one of the main ones. This needs to be changed as a matter of urgency and not as part of Enterprise Bargaining.

If you are serious about making Adelaide a great university you need to do something right away. Before we start thinking about paying professorial loadings as suggested by Ross Milbourne we need a promotions policy that enables us to attract and retain the most talented academic staff at more junior levels.

At least we must ensure that our promotions policy is in line with those of other Australian universities. If we are unable to compete with them we will never become "world-class".

Dr Tony Winefield

Associate Professor, Psychology Academic Member, University Council

Of Salamanders, Crystal Balls, and Walnuts: Reflections on Creative Writing

Summertown, mid-August. I'm sitting by the fire trying not to think of the deadline for this as yet unwritten article-two days away! All I want to do is enjoy watching the fire-each night a new city built and

demolished, slowly blackening above incandescent catacombs. If flames are compared with tongues, as they often are, what creature might those tongues belong to? A salamander, perhaps. Through a glass screen, I watch a small hot box full of salamander tongues in tumultuous conference.

But I'm still not writing the article. And there's my Creative Writing seminar tomorrow-I need an idea for it. As I add wood to the fire, sparks fly out into the room like swift, vivid insects. I imagine a page covered with a scatter of randomly chosen words; a flying spark lands on a word here, a word there, like a bee visiting flowers. Out of that conglomeration, nine words are selected in this haphazard way, then must be put into a six-line poem.

Next day we all try the Flying Spark exercise-challenging but engrossing. It combines two elements which I return to again and again as a teacher of creative writing. First, a gathering of material-words, ideas, associations-through a form of play that has the effect of shortcircuiting the activity of the rational mind and so enabling one to tap into dream images, the flotsam and jetsam of the unconscious. Then, a shaping of both conscious and unconscious material, with form acting as a container, a pressure cooker, an encounter with limitation which can also generate new possibilities

by Diane Fahey Writer in Residence tions-the 'defamiliarisation' effect-that emerges so often in creative writing.

After the bell stops

and the dog's voices are only an echo in the square

and the reign of words is over,

silence...

Peach and aventurine,

the scarf hangs over a chair. The slug,

a glowing cicatrice, drains taste from a tangerine.

The poem remains simply an exercise, but it was interesting to me to find myself picking up on sound images first (because of 'bell' and 'words', with a convenient way of getting rid of 'dogs'). I could be in a square in a European city, as I proceed, then in a still life painting. In my experience, people reveal much about their concerns and values and wishes in the course of writing a piece which might seem to have no close connection with their experience.

I think creative writing is very much about problem solving, too. You paint yourself into a corner so as to work out some ingenious way of getting out of it. Perhaps you will decorate the walls enclosing the corner with a trompe l'oeil painting of a door then step through it. Perhaps you will start dismantling the bricks that compose the corner. Perhaps you will find a trapdoor beneath that ageing linoleum, and climb down the stairs which lead to ... another problem? another poem? Well, why not try it?

As a teacher of creative writing, I believe one is working with two key things. Most obviously, there are the craft aspects of writing. Plot and characterisation, dialogue, the various kinds of form in poetry, metaphor, and so on-all these can be discussed, illustrated, then experienced directly in exercises that enable the participant to focus on and explore one particular element at a time. And the topic of working with language itself is an inexhaustible one-a constant encounter with limitation and possibility, sound and texture, clarity and resonance.

The issue of assisting disadvantaged students was raised, and systems of student loans were discussed, as was the important issue of administrative computing.

It was a busy weekend. There was no time to go off looking for dolphins. Sadly I didn't see one at all, even in the distance. And because we were working so hard I even failed to spot the magpie that helped itself extensively to the Go8 morning tea.

Oh well, there is always someone picking at the sandstones!

MARY O'KANE

But let me illustrate the process, taking myself as the guinea pig on this occasion, as poems were still in progress when we finished the class. As a starting point for the whole exercise, I wrote words suggested by people in the seminar on the board, and let my own flying spark jump from word to word. The words chosen were: chair, bell, peach, words, reign, taste, glowing, dogs, slug. Some headaches there! The resulting poem is certainly not one of my best numbers, but I quote it to illustrate the ability to create pattern, as well as surprising connec-

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** * *	Adelaidean John Edge Editor		The newspaper of The University of Adelaide	
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Waite-based students triumph in national agricultural forum

Two students conducting research at the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus have won first and third place in a national agricultural student forum.

The annual forum is organised by the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology. The finals were held in conjunction with the Institute's national conference in Melbourne earlier this month.

The Adelaide students, Wendy Meech and Philip Ainsley, were nominated to attend the forum based on the excellence of their final-year research projects.

Wendy Meech, an Honours stu-dent in the Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural Resources Management), has researched bacteria associated with the deposition of organic substrates in soils.

Philip Ainsley was an Honours student in the Bachelor of Biotechnology course at Flinders University. He undertook his research project with the University of Adelaide's Department of Plant Science, looking at plant regeneration and transformation of triticale.

After submitting a video and 3000word paper to a national panel of judges, Philip and Wendy were chosen to be South Australian representatives at the finals in Melbourne.



Wendy Meech and Philip Ainsley rehearse their presentations. Photo: ETU Photography, Waite Campus.

At the conference they presented 15-minute talks on their research projects, with marks being awarded for the technical merit of the project, written presentation, oral presentation and breadth of vision.

Philip won first prize, which was \$1000 cash and another \$1000 to go towards his research, with Wendy scoring \$250 for third place. A student from Murdoch University, Deborah McDonald, came second.

Marketing a winner in excellence awards

A book by Dr Pascale Quester from the Department of Commerce has won its category in The Australian "Awards for Excellence in Educational Publishing", announced recently.

Basic Marketing: A Managerial Approach won the award for excellence in the "Tertiary Single Book: Adaptation" category.

The Awards, sponsored by The Australian, are judged by an inde-pendent panel from the Teaching Resource and Textbook Research Unit (TREAT) at the University of Svdnev.

TREAT has been conducting research into the use and improvement of textbooks and other teaching resources at all educational levels since 1986.

and now in its second Australasian edition, Basic Marketing is an adaption of a classic American marketing text by E Jerome McCarthy-"the founder of modern marketing", says Dr Quester—and another leading writer in the field, William D Perreault, Jnr.

It introduces students to the principles and practices of marketing within the Australian and New Zealand environment, and comes with an extensive package of learning support materials.

"The first edition modified the American original with a lot of Australian content, and I built on that work for the second edition," Dr Quester said.

"The content is now about 80%

Published by Irwin/McGraw-Hill Australian; every chapter opens with a local case study, and all the examples are local.

> "There are more than 30 original case studies, all local, making it a fabulous teaching resource for lecturers. Reviewers were extremely positive about this edition."

> Basic Marketing is currently one of McGraw-Hill's best-selling tertiary textbooks, holding at least 30% of the market and in some semesters more.

> It is widely used in many Australian universities, and in most of the universities in New Zealand.

> The award and the kudos are timely-a new printing of the second Australasian edition is in train.

> > -John Edge



RISKY BUSINESS

Human infections and our response to them are the focus of a seminar organised by the Department of Microbiology & Immunology and the South Australian branches of the Australian Society for Microbiology in the Florey Lecture Theatre on 27 August at 6.00pm.

"Risky Business: Human Infections and the Politics of the Community Response" is intended to be a vehicle for providing insight into important infections, and how outbreaks are dealt with at the laboratory and regulatory level, and in the media.

Speakers are Professor Chris Burrell (University of Adelaide), Mr Chris Murray from IMVS, Dr Ron Somers and Mr David Watts (South Australian Health Commission), the State Coroner (Mr Wayne Chivell), Mr Callum Elder from National Dairies, and the ABC's Ms Julia Lester.

• Light refreshments from 5.30pm. To help with catering, register intent to attend with Shelley Pezy on 8303 5434, fax 8303 4362.

STAYING AHEAD

The Waite Research Precinct is the venue for "Staying Ahead", the inaugural South Australian Viticulture Technical Conference, to be held on Monday 15 September in the Plant Research Centre Auditorium from 9.00am to 4.00pm.

Organised by staff from SARDI, PISA, the University's department of Horticulture, Viticulture & Oenology, and CSIRO (Horticulture), the conference is the first in what is intended to be a regular series, and will focus on new technology applicable to South Australian viticulture.

Papers will report on research and field trials in progress or recently completed, and there will be short presentations of what's new in viticulture, snippets of research and technology news, and a poster display.

•Enquiries: Sue Soukoulis, tel 8303 9419, fax 8303 9424, email <soukoulis. susan@pi.sa.gov.au>.

OCTOBER GRADUATION FIRST

An increase in demand for October graduation will see the University of Adelaide running two Commemoration Ceremonies in October this year.

The ceremonies are on Monday 13 October at 10.30am and 2.30pm. The morning ceremony is for graduates in Agri-cultural & Natural Resource Sciences, Dentistry, Engineering, Mathematical & Computer Sciences, Medicine and Science. They will be addressed by the Vice-Chancellor of University Putra Malaysia, Professor Syed Jalaludin.

The Friends of the State Library's "Wednesdays at One" series continues on 3 September with former South Australian Premier, John Bannon, talking about the books which have influenced his life.

John Bannon is currently undertaking postgraduate research on the history of Australian Federation and the Constitution at Flinders University.

• Admission \$5/\$3 (concession and Friends members). Institute Building, North Terrace, Wednesday 3 September at 1.00pm.

Bannon & Books Beautiful voices to raise funds

Some of the most beautiful voices in Adelaide will be heard in a gala fundraising concert in the Elder Hall at 8.00pm on Friday 29 August.

The concert-'Mellifluous: An Evening of Sonorous Pleasure'—will be performed in the presence of His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, Sir Eric Neal, AC, CVO and will be compered by television personality Xavier Minniecon.

Among those appearing are Guila Tiver (mezzo), Keith Hempton (bass) Robert Dawe (bass/baritone), Imogen Roose (soprano), Philip Craig (tenor) and Catriona Barr (mezzo), accompanied by Margaret Ferrie and John Hall.

As well as showcasing the talents of

the Conservatorium Vocal School's students in the Pro Canto Chamber Choir and the George Street Company, 'Mellifluous' will also feature well-known performers from State Opera and Co-Opera—all students or graduates of the Conservatorium—as special guest artists.

'Mellifluous' is the last in a series of three fund raising concerts organised by a group of vocal school students and the funds raised will assist with the costs of mounting the opera Dido and Aeneas later this year as well as masterclasses with high profile performers visiting Adelaide for next year's Festival of Arts and the Ring Cycle.

Tickets \$18/\$14/\$10 at the door or by phoning 8303 5995.

In the afternoon, Architecture & Urban Design, Arts, Economics & Commerce, Law and Performing Arts graduates will be addressed by the University's newlyappointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Ross Milbourne.

PERFORMING ARTS DEAN

Dr Anita Donaldson has been re-elected as Dean of the Faculty of Performing Arts. Dr Donaldson will serve a threevear term until 30 June 2002.

Dr Donaldson has recently returned from the intensive Management Development Program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She also visited a number of institutions with graduate centres or programs in dance.

Overseas links promote indigenous awareness

Aboriginal staff at the University of Adelaide are forging various links overseas to promote awareness of indigenous culture and music.

Mr Phillip Allen, who is an academic and student support officer with Wilto Yerlo (Aboriginal Programs) and an accomplished musician, is currently on a five-week trip through the UK and Europe to take part in a series of concerts.

Although his work at the University involves support for indigenous students and recruitment, in Europe he's performing a very different role—playing saxophone and didgeridoo with the Nukanya Dreaming music and dance troupe.

Mr Allen was invited on the tour by Carroll Karpany, who runs an indigenous music company called Ngarindjeri-Narungga Dreaming, based at Uluru. The group, which includes a fusion of traditional and contemporary indigenous music, song and dance, was invited to be one of the opening acts for this year's Edinburgh Fringe festival.

"We'll be opening the Edinburgh Festival in front of about 300,000 people, and we're closing the Festival," Mr Allen said before heading overseas.

"From there we're going up to Germany and Denmark. We've got bookings in Frankfurt and Bonn and the Australian Embassy. In Frankfurt we've got three performances, and that's likely to draw a crowd of about 550,000 people, which is a lot of people."

Mr Allen said the concert tour, which ends next month, was an important chance to perform indigenous

Advertisement



Phillip Allen-overseas music tour. Photo: David Ellis

music to an overseas audience.

"In Europe, indigenous and fusion music is really popular. They just can't get enough of it, especially in Germany and the Scandinavian countries," he said.

Another of Wilto Yerlo's academic and student support officers, Ms Rose Turner, will present a paper at a major conference in Istanbul in November.

The conference, called Forum '97, will discuss issues dealing with the environment and cultural heritage.

Ms Turner, also known by her Aboriginal name Warrika, is a Nukunu person from the central southern Flinders Ranges.

A graduate of the Roseworthy Campus, she spent several years working in the field of conservation and cultural heritage with the Department of Primary Industry & Energy in Canberra before taking up a position with the University of Adelaide.

She remains active in the field of conservation and cultural heritage,

including representative positions on the Heritage Commission and her Aboriginal community council.

In Istanbul, Ms Turner will present a paper with Mr Steve Szabo from Environment Australia.

"What we're aiming to do is to tell people that there doesn't have to be conflict between cultural heritage and conservation," Ms Turner said.

"Kakadu and Uluru are good models in terms of how cultural heritage doesn't have to conflict with conservation. The traditional owners of the area are having their say about how they feel things should be done, and they're working closely with National Parks people."

Ms Turner, who was invited to attend the international conference, said it was a chance to promote cultural awareness and to develop closer ties with overseas groups.

"The whole idea of the conference is to put people in contact with each other. You're forming networks, and you're able to talk with other people, exchanging knowledge, ideas and advice.

"I think there's information we can bring to this conference that may shed some light on issues that other people in other parts of the world may be experiencing. It's a tremendous opportunity to bring to an international forum information about what's happening as far as indigenous people in Australia are concerned. It's also an opportunity for me to bring back information about what's happening elsewhere in the world," she said.

—David Ellis

CASM's musical cross-fertilisation

The University's Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) is taking part in a unique project which brings together indigenous music, song and dance and a classical symphony orchestra.

Commissioned by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the 30minute work will be premiered by the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra (ASO) next year.

The project involves four CASM lecturers, each with their own musical and cultural backgrounds—Jardine Kiwat, Kerry McKenzie, Grayson Rotumah and Jensen Warusam. They are collaborating with Adelaide composer Chester Shultz to produce a work which strongly reflects both indigenous and classical musical influences.

Coordinator of the ASO/CASM project, Gordon Williams described it as "the most ambitious attempt so far at



cross-fertilisation between Aboriginaland European-Australian musical traditions".

"This project was developed out of a need felt by ABC orchestras to engage with Australia's indigenous musicmakers," Mr Williams said.

"ABC Concerts staff and the ASO have hoped to end up with a piece which is a genuine expression of the artistic aims of indigenous musicians in response to working with a Western classical orchestra, and a work which helps reshape Western music-making with the benefit of indigenous insights."

The blend of traditional and contemporary indigenous music with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra could result in instruments such as the didgeridoo, clapsticks and Torres

From left: Kerry McKenzie, Grayson Rotumah, Jensen Warusam with composer Chester Schulz at the ABC studios, Collinswood. Photo: David Ellis

Strait drums being heard alongside such classical instruments as violins, cello, flute and oboe.

The piece is being written as a result of musical workshops, experimenting with various instruments' sounds as well as the aspect of word and dance as musical elements.

Mr Williams said the four CASM lecturers have contributed greatly to the process, bringing to each workshop not only their knowledge of traditional indigenous music, but also a wider knowledge of popular music styles. Their heritage and homelands, which range from the Torres Strait to northern Queensland, northern New South Wales and Melanesia, had also been important aspects in the musical process, Mr Williams said.

"This process isn't just a working out of sounds and structure," he said. "It is equally an exploration of identity and personal history."

The premiere of the final ASO/CASM piece will be conducted by Richard Mills in 1998.

Diving to the bottom of marine food chain

Margareth Copertino had to learn to dive before she could begin her PhD project in the University of Adelaide's Department of Botany. In the icy water around West Island, off Victor Harbor, Margareth pursues her desire to understand more about marine algae, or seaweed.

A lecturer at the University of Rio Grande in Brazil, her previous research examined grasses in the salt marshes in the extreme south of the country.

"I love the sea and wanted to move out of lagoons and estuaries to work in the sea itself," said Ms Copertino. "I searched the internet to find someone to help me change from salt marshes to marine algae."

Fortunately for her, and for the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Science, she discovered Dr Anthony Cheshire, who is widely regarded as an international expert in this field.

Turning down opportunities in Britain, Ms Copertino came to Adelaide on a scholarship from the Brazilian government to join the team in Botany.

Not only does Ms Copertino's PhD project realise one of her dreams, it also makes a contribution to the better understanding of underwater ecologies and global warming.

Algae are very sensitive to small changes in environmental factors—



Margareth Copertino: learnt to dive to undertake PhD. Photo: Donald Bramwell.

tracking the development of algae provides an important indicator of the health of a reef.

The extent to which marine plants can use the inorganic carbon dissolved in seawater affects the ability of the sea to absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide, which is a strong factor in global warming. Ms Copertino, under the supervision of Dr Cheshire, plans to track the rate at which the algae grow.

"Marine algae are at the base of the marine food chain. We can't hope to understand reef ecology without a detailed understanding of how much algae is produced and consumed," she said. "We need to track the light intensity, the water temperature, the nutrient concentration, and the quantity grazed by the local fish. All these factors affect the rate of photosynthesis and the growth of the plants."

Using a photo-respirometer, developed and purpose-built in the Department of Botany, Ms Copertino can observe the photosynthesis rates of the plants without having to remove them from the water.

Spending two weeks at a time on West Island does not seem to worry her. She looks forward to the daily dives and the hours spent in the laboratory.

On completing her PhD in Botany, Ms Copertino hopes to return to Rio Grande to set up a research team. She is confident that the Brazilian government and other funding bodies will accept the importance of understanding the marine plants on temperate reefs.

In the meantime, Ms Copertino and her husband, Mauricio Mata, are taking full advantage of the diverse social life provided by Adelaide.

"There are so many wonderful cafes and restaurants here. When we're not working, we make sure that we meet lots of people and learn as much about this place as we can," she said.

> —Donald Bramwell Community Relations Officer Faculty of Science

Advertisement

the World of Buddhism

Exploring

Group of 8 to promote Australian Higher Education

The Group of Eight universities— Adelaide, the Australian National University, Melbourne, Monash, the University of New South Wales, Queensland, Sydney and Western Australia—have announced plans to counter adverse publicity such as that generated by Pauline Hanson and to raise the profile and standing of Australian higher education.

The international reputation of Australia and all its universities is being harmed not only by illinformed comments but also by flawed reports such as the Good Universities Guide.

The Group of Eight is considering the trade practices implications of the superficial comments in the Guide, in particular its use of the "Course Experience Questionnaire" of the Graduate Careers Council of Australia in a way explicitly cautioned against by the Council.

The Group has been forced to reconsider its position in making available the course experience questionnaire material.

Members of the Group of Eight are major research-based institutions and top quality teaching and learning institutions, ranked as such by the national Committee for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

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The Group of Eight will conduct their own benchmarking activities, along with major international institutions, and will develop comparative performance data which are valid and verifiable.

The Group of Eight will also make these materials available through its soon-to-be-established network of information and support centres in the major cities of the region, in a concerted effort not merely to make clear the excellence of the Australian Higher Education system but to counter adverse publicity such as that generated by Pauline Hanson and the Good Universities Guide.

—Group of Eight Press Release Masters from Tibet, Vietnam, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Cambodia will be present. Each master will give a short talk on a subject

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For details of support provided, and to obtain your Adelaide package, contact Ms Anne-Marie Quinn on 8212 4794 or the Vice-Chancellor's Office on ext 33011. Email: aquinn@registry.adelaide. edu.au



George Town Cultural Heritage project

Members of the South Australian Heritage Consultants and Contractors Group have recently completed Phase 2 of a cultural heritage study of George Town in Penang, Malaysia.

The group comprises graduates, or individuals associated with the bachelor programs in Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of Adelaide. It is led by Bruce Pettman from Services SA and Ron Danvers of Danvers Architects.

The group has spent recent weeks in George Town undertaking an extensive heritage assessment survey, landscape character inventory, and community consultative process with both government and community representatives and organisations.

The project was funded by the Malaysian Government's Culture, Arts & Tourism Ministry as part of Malaysia's 7th Plan. The Ministry's Secretary-General, Datuk Ismail Adam said the study would start with the conservation and preservation of Armenian Street with its historical enclaves of mosques and kongsi buildings.

"The study, to be based on international methodology, will involve theconservation and managed development of the historical precinct without affecting its architectural heritage and multi-cultural character," he said.

The project, supported by Penang's state Ministry of Tourism & Culture and the Municipal Council of Penang Island, is being undertaken through PDC-AR&T Total Project Managers Sdn Bhd.



Proposed streetscape treatments outside the Masjid Kapitan Keling Mosque, George Town, Penang. Drawing: John Hales

Its purpose is to prepare an Action Plan for the revitalisation of the historic Acheh/Armenian/Pitt Streets enclave as the central cultural heritage area of George Town's historic inner city.

The Penang Minster of Arts, Tourism & Culture, Dato' Kee Phaik Cheen, expressed her vision for George Town as an important exemplar of cultural heritage and the need to conserve and nurture its area.

"We want to have a mixed development of residences and businesses. We will emphasise urbanscape and streetscape where there will be guidelines on architecture and building styles and materials. We want development to be sympathetic with the overall ambience."

The project was instigated in anticipation of the imminent repeal of the Rent Control Act which has affected a large area of George Town.

There is a desire to conserve the heritage fabric and unique cultural legacy of George Town, and to permit sustainable life systems and activities to continue within a tourism environment.

To enable the Action Plan to be formulated the project coordinators drew upon a wide team of Adelaide-based and Penang-based consultants and practitioners from architectural, heritage, urban design, engineering, landscape architecture, urban planning, quantity surveyors, and asset managerial backgrounds and expertise.

Ron Danvers, principal of Danvers Architects and a member of the Board of the Faculty of Architecture & Urban Design, stressed the importance of the consultation process in reaching a consensus on this urban design proposal.

"We have applied a top-down consultative process involving representatives of the state government and the City of Penang Island, and with representatives and trustees of the various Kongsis, Town Halls, Chambers of Commerce and Mosque Councils," he said.

Heritage landscape architect for the project, and Senior Lecturer in Landscape Architecture in the Faculty, Dr David Jones, highlighted the significance of the enclave.

"This is perhaps the most intact colonial city enclave in South East Asia," Dr Jones said.

"It still possesses a rich and vibrant Chinese Straits Settlements architectural mosaic placed upon the original town plan devised by Francis Light, father to Colonel William Light.

"Within this environment exists a significant and continuing legacy of Hokkien clans and their Kongsis, Achenese and Indian Mosques, and vibrant Cantonese, Hindu and Indian communities, that have largely been perpetuated due to the existence of the Kongsis, Temples and Mosques, the rent control legislation, and very little bombing damage during World War II."

REFLECTIONS ON CREATIVE WRITING – From Page 2

Then there is the personal exploration aspect of writing. Somewhere or other, somehow or other, you are in the picture. Unavoidably. However distant from your experience a topic of writing might be, you are finding a point of entry into it through what you know or feel. So, writing is about discovering connections, opening up possibilities, realising how many choices you have, and shaping something out of that whole searching process. Creative writing is a constant learning experience, on many fronts.

Most writing begins as self-expression. For some people that's where it ends. That's fine. That's a choice. But for most people, there is the desire to reach a wider audience. That's where what I call the discipline of communication comes in-getting feedback on how and to what degree your work communicates with others...a translation, if you like, of often very interior and elusive experiences and reflections on to a more public screen. Ultimately, I believe, that further process serves the impulse to self-expression extremely well, for there is a further crystallisation of what you want to say: you get closer to what you really meant, as it were.

personal interests and hobbies, and finding a new insight to help take one through a difficult experience or phase of life.

On that score I do believe that imaginative writing, along with all the other creative arts, can have a healing and integrating function, along with their capacity to shuffle up our perceptions of the texture of everyday life, of entrenched power structures, of the way we see ourselves and others. And so bring more consciousness, and more choice, into our engagement with life.

Let me return to the subject of limitation. With writing, after the generating of the raw material and then the development of it, there is the business of finding a form-in poetry, what I would call a 'rhythmic shape'—and this tends to be enmeshed with the editing process. Shaping ideas, feelings, memories, fantasies, into a form involves amplification at times, but most often a cutting away, a surrendering of all kinds of bits and pieces you feel attached to-an instructive process! It's now 9am on delivery day for this article. I started drawing images and threads of thought together at 5am and am still here, propped up in bed with my powerbook before me. I've partly closed the curtains as bright sunlight was bouncing back at me from the underwater green of a corner of the screen, which tells me it's 1.05am! One has many experiences of being in a time-warp with computers...

about the size of an eye in a peacock's tail. The other morning, as I read poetry in bed, one of those refractions slowly moved across the page—a floating island of words. And I've scrutinised the tributaries, creeks, and minute streams on my palm by the light of that brilliant thumbprint. So I'll get up now, catch the bus down to the city, catching glimpses of that vast plateau and the sea beyond as I'm pulled towards and away from steep hillsides with starkly vertical trees.

And the walnuts? This article has been a kind of walnut-a summing up of many of the key things I've learnt about writing over several decades in a very compact space. There are two crates of walnuts in the house where I'm staying. I haven't really had time to open one-a definition, perhaps, of being really busy, as I have been. But I might open up one of those walnuts before I leave. For one thing it would be research, because the last poem I want to write for my collection of poems on Grimms' fairy stories is 'All Fur', a version of the Cinderella story. All Fur (wearing a coat made of fur from all the animals in her father's kingdom), flees to a new kingdom, taking with her three walnuts. In due course, she is able to transform herself from a scullery maid to the belle of the ball by opening one walnut on each of three nights—the first contains a dress as golden as the sun, the second a dress as silvery as the moon, the third a dress as bright as the stars. And so, finally, her situation turns itself round, things start to look up.

As a writer, I've often searched for the hidden resource that would turn things around. Initially, I was motivated and driven by the pressure of prolonged depression—a maze that I needed to find a thread of meaning in, so as to find my way out. This, over many years, slowly happened. Poetry in particular, but other forms of creative writing too, have been illuminating, have taught me something about the alchemy of transformation.

But one proceeds word by word. It's often a laborious and difficult process. Because of this, I'm given to saying in creative writing workshops, that resistance and blankness-the desert experience-are part of the creative process. They are built in to it, not suspensions of it. Resistance is a closed door-which means to me that there's something behind it, so the question becomes how to use one's wits to get access to that locked away material. Blankness can be either a natural fatigue after creative work already achieved, or a fertile emptiness, a fallowness leading up to a new phase of creativity. One is working with processes and energies that, like Glendower's spirits in the vasty deep, do not always come when you do call for them. But that's one of the things that makes it all so interesting.

I expect that, as many readers are reading my words now, the kinds of processes I'm talking about in relation to the sparking and evolution and shaping involved in creative writing, resonate with experiences they have had in many realms of life—solving intellectual problems, negotiating the challenges of everyday living, pursuing

The facetted crystal ball hanging against the window is again casting rainbowed ovals on the wall—each -Diane Fahey

Diane Fahey is Writer in Residence with the Departments of English and Women's Studies [Social Inquiry] until 4 September.



Justice Michael Kirby to speak in Elder Hall

Alumni are invited to attend an Oration by the Honourable Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG of the High Court of Australia in the Elder Hall at 5:30pm on Monday 1 September.

The Oration is jointly presented by the John Bray Law Chapter of the Alumni Association and the Law Students' Society.

Justice Kirby will speak on the topic "Appointment to the High Court-What's it really like?"

There will be a charge of \$2, payable at the door, and all who attend are invited to stay after the address for wine and cheese. Bookings are not required.

Alumni Activities Program

Alumni interested in music and Japanese culture are invited to a presentation by Dr Kimi Coaldrake in the Hartley Concert Room, Wednesday 20 August, at which she will speak about traditional Japanese music and play the koto.

This presentation is free, but please phone 8303 4275 to make a booking.

Volunteer Tour Guides needed

Many of the visitors to Adelaide spend time on North Terrace enjoying the many attractions of our capital city's cultural precinct.

The University of Adelaide has much to offer the visitor. As well as being an important centre of teaching and research, the University is part of the State's history and heritage and plays an important part in the cultural and intellectual life of South Australia.

The Alumni Association has agreed to help visitors and the local community to know the University of Adelaide better by offering regular walking tours of the campus.

To do this, we need a team of volunteers interested in being trained as Tour Guides.

Are you interested in the history and current work of the University? Do you enjoy meeting people? Are you comfortable speaking to small groups? Would you like to give a few hours of your time to help your University to be better known and understood by the community? If so, we need you!

If you would like to become a Volunteer Tour Guide, or would like to know more about the proposed Campus Tours Program, please call Adrienne Eccles at the Alumni Office, 8303 3196.

Cambridge Scholars announced

graduates have won three of the 15 scholarships made available by the Cambridge Australia Trust in its most recent round of awards-more than any other Australian University, according to the Chair of the SA Committee of the Trust, Dr Rosemary Brooks.

The prestigious and

University of Adelaide very valuable scholarships are designed to give outstanding Australian students the opportunity to work alongside leaders in their fields at one of the United Kingdom's greatest universities.

> Two of the new scholars are Engineering graduates. Packer Scholar Nicholas Haan (BE Hons 1996) will go to Peterhouse College to work in the field

of digital signal processing, while Tim Edmonds (BE Hons 1996) will undertake his PhD thesis at St John's College in the field of ubiquitous embedded radio networks.

The third scholar is Christopher Bleby (BA Hons 1992, LLB Hons 1995), who will work on political international law at Gonville and Caius College. Mr Bleby, who

had earlier won a UK Commonwealth Scholarship, has been made an Honorary Cambridge Australia Trust Scholar.

Dr Brooks, said the results were a great credit to the University of Adelaide, and hoped they would encourage other outstanding graduates to apply.

—John Edge



State Librarian farewell

The large number of alumni present at the State Library's farewell to departing State Librarian Fran Awcock emphasised the close links that exist between the State Library and the University.

Amongst the guests were the Chancellor Mr Bill Scammell, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Mary O'Kane, Dr Alan Brissenden AM (Chair of the Friends of the State Library), Dr Harry Medlin (Chair of the Alumni Association), Mr Ray Choate (University Librarian), Dr Barbara Hardy (a Vice-Patron of the Alumni Association), and Mr Tim Mares (Chair of the Cornell Chapter of the Alumni Association).

In her speech, Ms Awcock paid tribute to the many people with whom she worked during her time as State Librarian. She leaves South Australia to take up the role of Chief Executive Officer at the State Library of Victoria.

Pictured are Fran Awcock (left) with Alumni Association member Mrs Faerlie Smith. The Chancellor, Mr Bill Scammell and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Mary O'Kane are in the background.

Creative Writing and Literary Culture

"Write what you don't know about what you know"-that is the message that the new Professor of Creative Writing, Tom Shapcott has for his students.

Professor Shapcott will talk about "Teaching Creative Writing within a Literary Culture" at an 'inaugural' lecture jointly presented by the Cornell Chapter and the Department of English on Thursday 11 September at 6.30pm in the Ira Raymond Room, Barr Smith Library.

His wide-ranging lecture places the question of "teaching creative writing" within the wider subject of "creating a literary culture".

On the place of universities in this context, Professor Shapcott notes that, "...just as the effects of the Literature Board funding over a 24 year period have ... exerted a

profound stimulus on the larger context of Australia's literary culture, so do I think that the role of universities in becoming more willing to present creative writing as a possibility for students will in time be seen as a further decisive role especially in the honing of that increasing need for, and thirst for, professionalism and proficiency".

Public lecture — all welcome.

Oxford music appointment

University of Adelaide graduate Peter Leech (BA 87, BMus 90, Grad Dip Musicology 96) has been appointed to the post of Director of Music of the Cathedral Singers of Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford.

The Cathedral Singers perform around 50 services a year when the Cathedral Choir is on vacation, as well as pre-



Early Graduates' Afternoon Tea

The Alumni Association extends a warm invitation to all its older graduates, particularly those who graduated in 1946 or earlier, to come to the 1997 Early Graduates' Afternoon Tea.

The Afternoon Tea will be held in the Equinox Cafe, level 4, Adelaide University Union building on Saturday 30 August next from 3:00pm to 4:30pm.

Family and friends are most welcome. \$7.50 per person, payable at the door; please telephone 8303 4275 to make a booking. After-hours parking permits are available from vending machines at the University gates for \$4.00.

senting their own concert series.

Mr Leech, who was Director of Music at St Peter's Cathedral in Adelaide (1994-95), won a scholarship in 1996 to undertake a PhD with Peter Holman at East Anglia University in Colchester.

He will commute to Colchester to continue lecturing in baroque and early church music at the Colchester Institute, while making Oxford his new research base.

Earlier this year he was commissioned to write about three composers-among them Louis Grabu-for the revised version of the Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians.

Peter Leech was also conductor of the Adelaide University Choral Society (1994-95) and Musical Director for the Helpmann Academy production of Henry Purcell's Fairy Queen in 1995.

The CD "Quito", which he cut with The Song Company in Sydney last year, has been nominated for an Italia Award.

-John Edge

The Leonardo da Vinci chapter assisted in the organisation of a recital by renowned Italian pianist Aldo Fiorentin in Elder Hall last month.

The pianist (seated, front) is pictured with members of the organising group. (L to R): Giorgio Picozzi, Marco Danieli, Anna Picozzi, Bice Della-Putta (Leonardo da Vinci Chapter committee member) and Alessandro Gardini.

Physics — it's not just a 'man's domain'

"Women have been underrepresented in Physics forever," according to Dr Judith Pollard.

As chairperson of the national group Women In Physics, and a lecturer and course coordinator in the University's Department of Physics and Mathematical Physics, Dr Pollard knows all too well the difficulties that are faced by women working and studying in this field, and the difficulty encouraging them to do so.

In the English-speaking world, female students typically comprise just 15-20% of undergraduate physics classes.

The University of Adelaide's figures are better (rising to about 25% in recent years) but are still lagging behind countries such as France and Russia, whose number of female physicists almost equals the males.

Dr Pollard, whose research interests include Physics Education, said there was still some way to go to promote



Dr Judith Pollard—chairs national Women in Physics group. Photo: David Ellis

physics as a career option for thinking that physics is a "man's domain".

"It's important that Physics women, and to change people's is seen as an environment that is welcoming to women," Dr Pollard said.

"For the individual fulfilment of the women concerned, they should have open to them any avenues of knowledge in any career paths that they're suited to.

'Physics also benefits greatly by having the contribution of a wide range of people, both men and women, with different personal attributes, skills, talents and interests in physics."

Women In Physics, a group of the Australian Institute of Physics (AIP), aims at a State and national level to improve the climate for women in physics, to provide contact and support for women working in the field, and to improve public awareness of women's role and contributions to physics.

One way the group achieves this is through meetings and public lectures, such as the Claire Corani Memorial Lecture

This was held at the University of Adelaide on Friday, 15 August as part of a national lecture series.

Guest lecturer Dr Rachel Webster (University of Melbourne) discussed the phenomenon of gravitational lensing and the idea of "using distortions to map the universe".

At the lecture, student Chandrika Kodikara was awarded a Claire Corani Memorial Prize.

Claire Corani was a graduate of the University of Adelaide and an active member of the SA Women In Physics group who died tragically in December 1994.

The prizes are awarded to the best woman student in second-year Physics at each South Australian university and honour Claire's contributions to Women In Physics and attempt to replace the influence she herself would have had for promoting physics as a career for girls.

> -David Ellis —Alice Wright



Faulding Lectures

5UV is recording the series of six Faulding lectures. They will be broadcast in September. For details ask the station (8303 5000) for a copy of the September/November Program guide. The Faulding lectures will be followed by a repeat of the Conversations series.

• Health Segment

Members of the University's Department of Public Health have commenced a regular health segment, 'There's a lot of it going round', on Wednesdays at 7.50am. The Department of Family Medicine's segment on Fridays at the same time continues.

Popular Science

Dr Derek Abbott from Engineering will commence a segment on popular science soon. For details consult the Program Guide.

Jazz on 5UV

Jazz is now featured every week night from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. Each night has a different theme, starting with Trad and working up to Contemporary. You can also hear Jazz on Sunday afternoons from 3.00pm.

Retirement of Shirley Bowbridge

Friends and colleagues gathered in the Hoods Room of the Staff Club last month to farewell Shirley Bowbridge, who was retiring after 36 years service as Secretary and later Executive Officer of the English Department.

Among those who spoke of Mrs Bowbridge's dedicated service to the Department was Emeritus Professor Colin Horne, the former Jury Chair of English who was Head of Department when Mrs Bowbridge first came to the University.

The new Professor of Creative Writing, Tom Shapcott, read a special poem for the occasion.

Shirley Bowbridge is pictured right with her husband Jimmy. [Photo: John Edge]



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transport 10 mins from city by bus or leisurely bike ride along linear path. \$125pw + bond. Ph David Fauretto 8268 3288. GILBERTON: On the river,

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VOLUNTEERS: Healthy women over 55 years of age are wanted to participate as control subjects in a research study investigating stress and immune function in breast cancer patients. Participants will be asked to complete questionnaires and donate a small quantity of blood. For further information please contact Grace on 0414 433 251 or 8365 1236 (h).